

By: Representative Clarke

To: Rules

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 48

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE LOSS AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND  
2 LEGACY OF MRS. VENITI ANNETTE HALL WILLIAMS.

3 WHEREAS, it is written in Ecclesiastes 3:1 that "To  
4 everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under  
5 the Heaven," and as such, the immaculate author and finisher of  
6 our soul's destiny summoned the mortal presence of dearly beloved,  
7 Mrs. Veniti Annette Hall Williams, to eternal rest, rendering  
8 great sorrow and loss to her family, friends and community; and

9 WHEREAS, the State of Mississippi and the City of Jackson,  
10 Mississippi, lost a wonderful friend, loving wife and mother and  
11 dedicated community leader with the passing of Mrs. Williams, who  
12 was born on September 17, 1958, in Prentiss, Mississippi, to  
13 Charles London Hall and Myrtle Lee Collins Hall, and there is now  
14 a hush in our hearts as we come together to pay our respects to  
15 the memory of one who has been called to join that innumerable  
16 heavenly caravan; and

17 WHEREAS, Veniti Annette Hall Williams was a woman of  
18 uncompromised faith and gave her life to God at an early age and



19 became a member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, and she now  
20 enjoys the eternal peace described in Luke 2:29, "Lord, now you  
21 are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word";  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, after graduating from Prentiss High School in 1976,  
24 Mrs. Williams earned her bachelor's degree in business  
25 administration with a concentration in finance in 1981 as well as  
26 her master's degree in business administration in 1996 from  
27 Jackson State University, and upon her graduation, she became a  
28 revered and seasoned accounting professional, serving in various  
29 budget and finance positions for entities such as Hinds County and  
30 the Jackson Public Schools; and

31 WHEREAS, Mrs. Williams truly had a servant's heart, and she  
32 was selected by Supervisor Peggy Calhoun to sit on the Hinds  
33 County Human Resource Agency Board of Directors where she served  
34 as Secretary and Vice Chair of the Finance and Agency Development  
35 Committee, and in 2018, the board honored her with the  
36 Board of Directors Award, and she often also volunteered at  
37 Greater Mt. Bethel Church of Christ Holiness USA, where she  
38 attended with her husband and children, and at many other  
39 community programs with her daughter; and

40 WHEREAS, in her spare time, Mrs. Williams loved spending time  
41 with her extended family at the Collins family reunions or around  
42 the fire in Prentiss, listening to music, traveling and



43 entertaining, cooking delicious meals for her family, friends and  
44 guests, reading and working in her yard as she had a remarkable  
45 green thumb, and on the weekends, after listening to Soul Train  
46 while cleaning the house with her daughter, she would go to the  
47 Metrocenter Mall for an afternoon of shopping the best fashion  
48 trends; and

49 WHEREAS, caring, strong-willed, intelligent, beautiful,  
50 brave, God-fearing, wise, graceful and sophisticated are just a  
51 few of the adjectives that could have described Mrs. Veniti  
52 Annette Hall Williams, but above all else, she was a strong,  
53 loving and compassionate wife, mother, grandmother, confidante and  
54 friend who touched the lives of all those who crossed her sweet  
55 and charming path, and her warm hugs, positive energy, contagious  
56 laughter and bright smile will be forever cherished by her family,  
57 friends and others who knew her and experienced her greatness; and

58 WHEREAS, though she has traversed life's river to now stand  
59 upon the celestial shores in wonderment of Heaven's grandeur in  
60 glorious reunion with those who transitioned before her, including  
61 both of her parents; her brother, Larry "Little Man" Hall; her  
62 first husband, Marvin Summers; brother-in-law, Herman Lee; her  
63 special niece, Marsee Lee; and several aunts and uncles, the  
64 memory of Mrs. Williams, a woman held in the highest regard by  
65 friends and family as an inspiring and precious gift from God,  
66 will continue to refresh the hearts and memories of her beloved  
67 survivors: her husband of 36 years, Leonard; children, State



68 Representative Zakiya Summers-Harlee (Andra) and Leonard "Duke"  
69 Williams II; grandchildren, Marvin Summers, Mason Summers and  
70 Mathis Harlee; step-children, Tamu, Kafi and Derra Williams;  
71 sisters, Charlene Hall Fairley (Samuel), Lynda Lee, Joann Theodore  
72 (James) and Ruby Jewell Powell (Herman); cousins that she  
73 acknowledged as her bonus sisters, Carolyn Price (Charles) and  
74 Jessie Formey; aunt, Florene Tansil (Eddie); lifelong  
75 sister-friend, Cynthia Gail Berkhalter; and a host of other  
76 relatives and friends; and

77 WHEREAS, we encourage the family to find solace from the  
78 overwhelming sadness created by the earthly departure of their  
79 beloved family member in Revelation 21:4, wherein is recorded,  
80 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there  
81 shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall  
82 there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" and  
83 renewed in their faith that Mrs. Williams fulfilled the  
84 commandment of II Timothy 4:7 by having "fought a good fight,  
85 finishing her course and keeping the faith until the hour of her  
86 departure was at hand"; and

87 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the House of Representatives to  
88 recognize and honor the lives of fine Mississippians, especially  
89 those such as Mrs. Veniti Annette Hall Williams, a gracious woman  
90 who loved her family, friends and community unconditionally and  
91 worshipped the Lord God Almighty with all of her heart and soul,  
92 bringing glory and honor to the State of Mississippi:



93           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF  
94 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby  
95 mourn the loss and commemorate the life and legacy of Mrs. Veniti  
96 Annette Hall Williams, and express deepest sympathy to her family  
97 and friends upon her passing.

98           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be  
99 furnished to the family of Mrs. Veniti Annette Hall Williams and  
100 to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

